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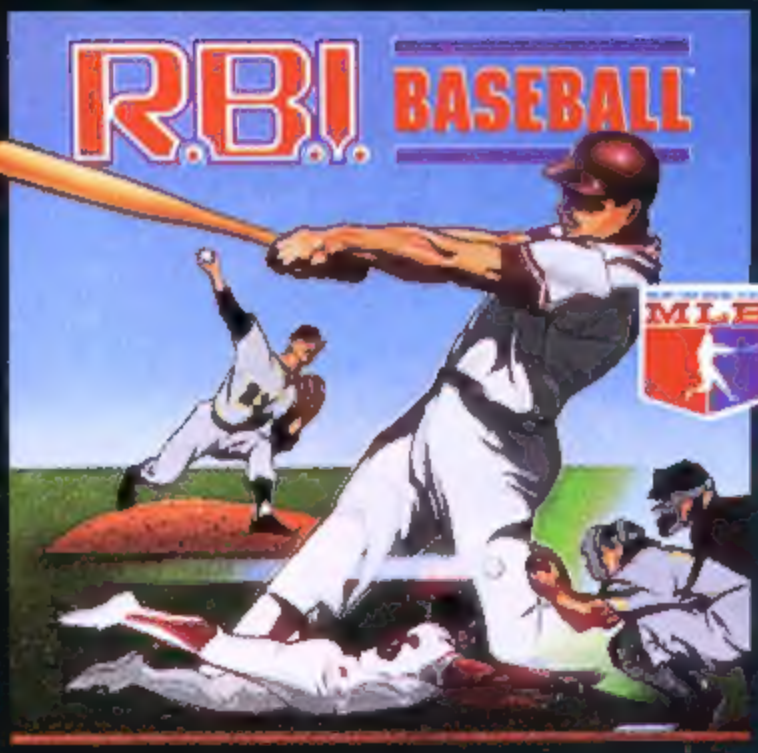

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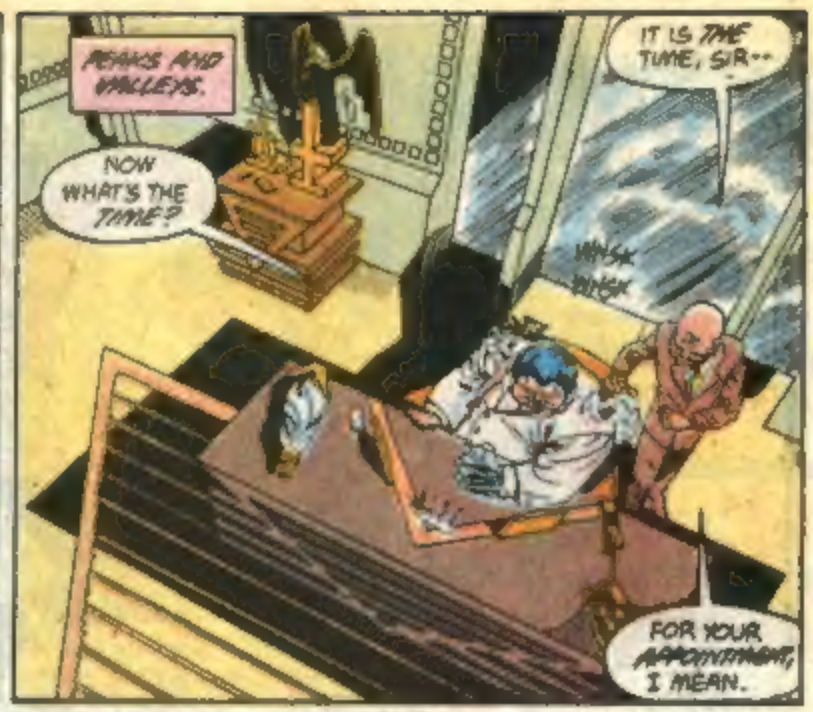

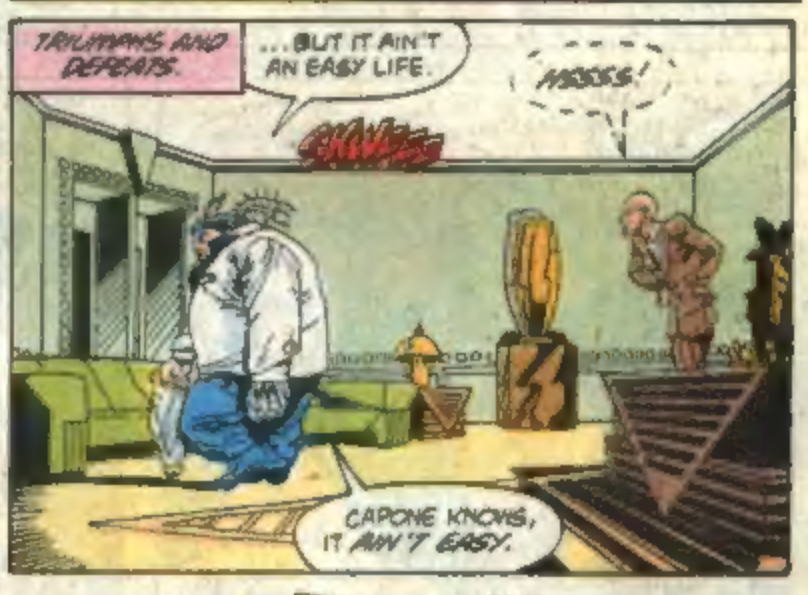

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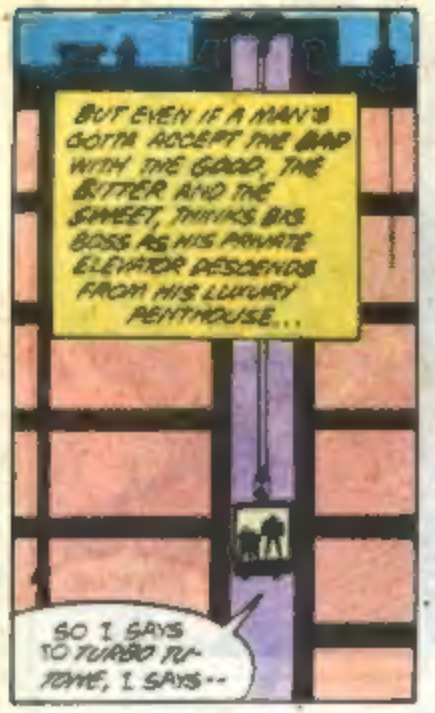

BUT EVEN IF A MAN'S GOTTA ACCEPT THE BAD WITH THE GOOD, THE BITTER AND THE SWEET, THINKS BIG BOSS AS HIS PRIVATE ELEVATOR DESCENDS FROM HIS LUXURY PENTHOUSE...
SO I SAYS TO TURBO TU-TONE, I SAYS--

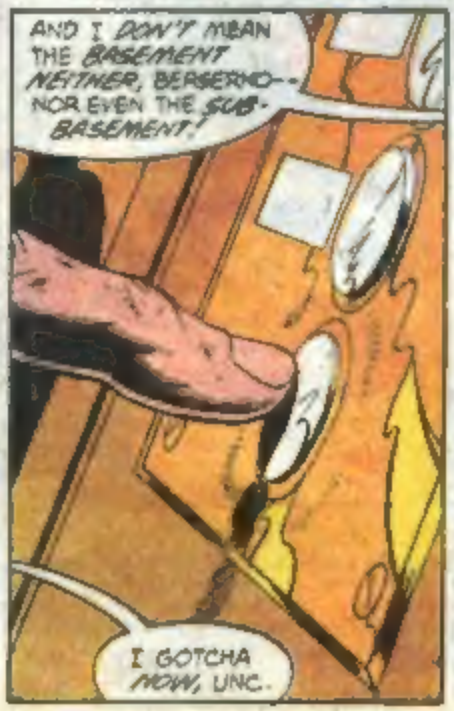
--BIG BOSS IS GONNA NEED A NEW BODYGUARD FOR THE TIME BEIN', RIGHT?
AND WITH A BODY AS BIG AS BIG BOSS'S BODY, I SAYS, THE ONLY GUY FOR THE JOB IS ME, RIGHT?

EVEN SO... HOW DOES THE MERE SAKH BETWEEN UP AND DOWN BECOME SUCH A VAST GULF IN THE PRESENCE OF BER-SERKO?
YOU ARE MOSTLY FORTUNATE, BERSERKO--

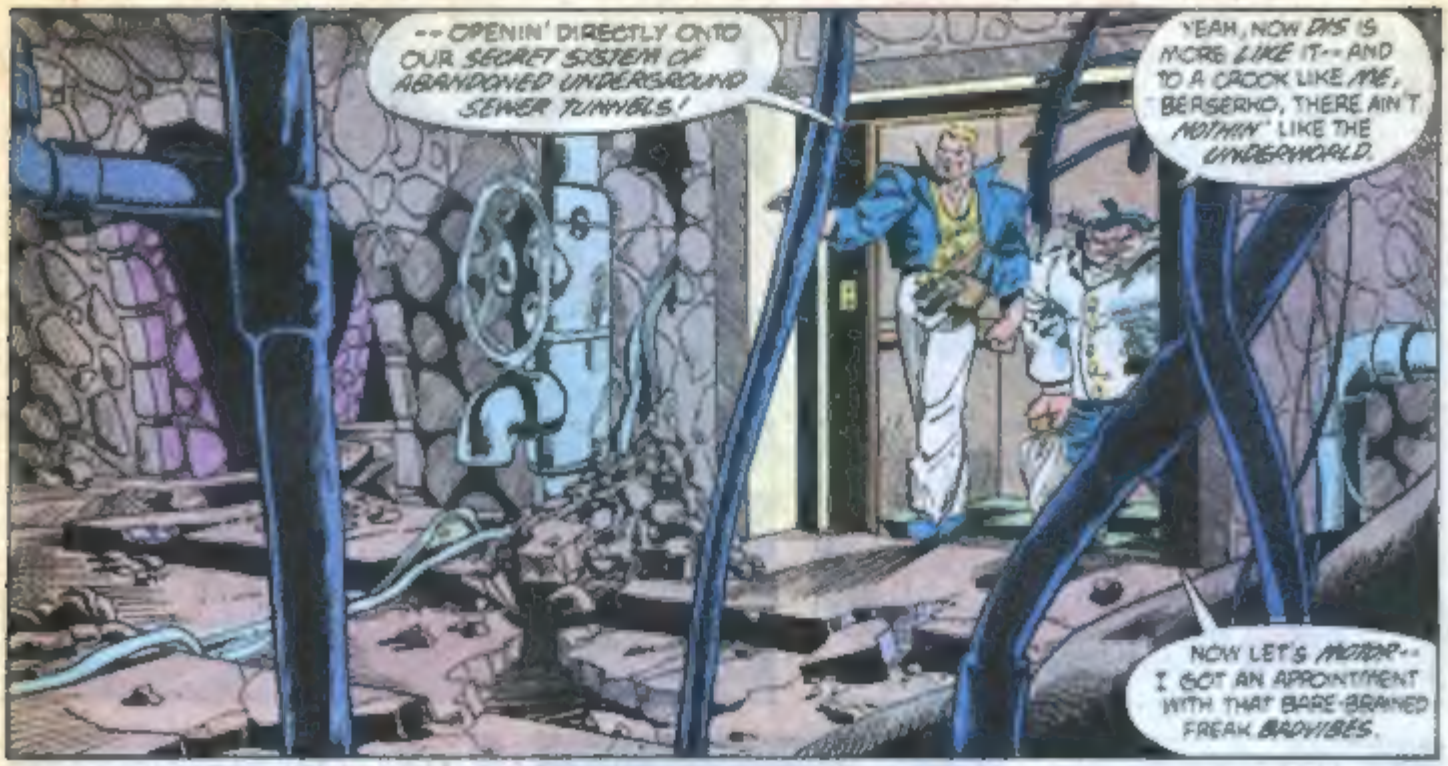
--THAT YOU HAPPEN TO BE MY DEAR DEPARTED BRUDDER'S ONLY SON.
YEAH, I KNOW DAT, UNCLE BOSS, AND I THANK MY LUCKY STARS EVERY DARK NIGHT WITHOUT CLOUDS, HEH HEH HEH...

...BUT HERE WE ARE, UNC--THE FIRST FLOOR LOBBY!
EXCEPT, BERSERKO, I BELIEVE I SAID ALL THE WAY DOWN?
OH, YOU MEAN...

WHAT I MEAN WHEN I SAY ALL THE WAY DOWN, BERSERKO.
THOOOM
...IS ALL THE WAY DOWN!


AND I DON'T MEAN THE BASEMENT NEITHER, BERSERKO--NOR EVEN THE SUB-BASEMENT!
I GOTCHA NOW, UNC.

WHAT YOU MEAN IS OUR LAST AND FINAL STOP--


--OPENIN' DIRECTLY ONTO OUR SECRET SYSTEM OF ABANDONED UNDERGROUND SEWER TUNNELS!
YEAH, NOW DIS IS MORE LIKE IT-- AND TO A CROOK LIKE ME, BERSERKO, THERE AIN'T NOTHIN' LIKE THE UNDERWORLD.
NOW LET'S MOTOR-- I GOT AN APPOINTMENT WITH THAT BARE-BRAINED FREAK BROWIBES.

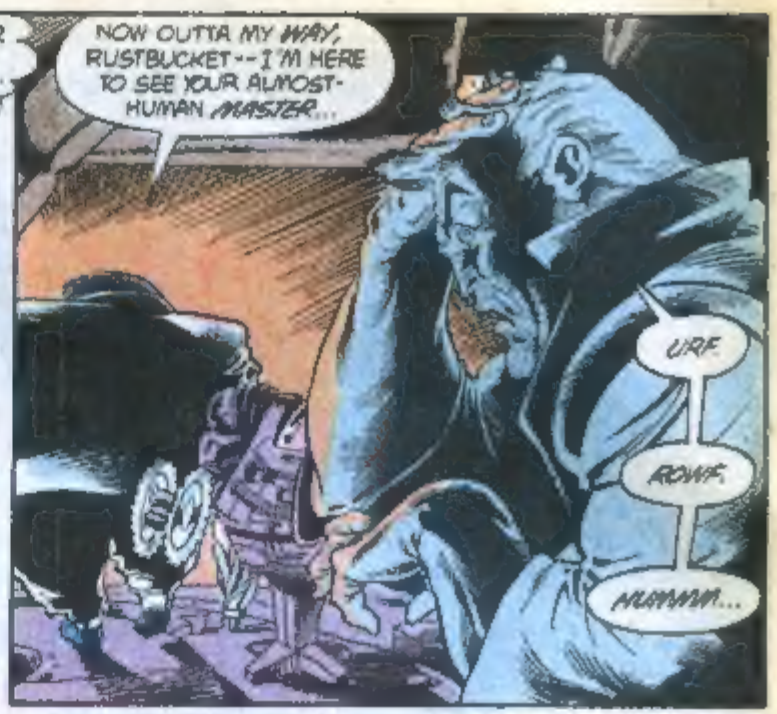
O-OKAY, BIG BOSS, B-BUT THERE'S ONE THING YOU SHOULD MAYBE, LIKE, KNOW...
AND WHAT, PRAY TELL, DEAR BERSERKO, MIGHT THAT BE?

D-D-DIS S-SECRET PLACE ALWAYS GIVES ME THE C-CREEPS!
THAT I SHOULD KNOW? THAT YOU'RE PETRIFIED UNTO SELIDITY?
SO BIG DEAL-- YOU'RE ONLY MY BODY-GUARD.
I C-CAN'T HELP IT, B-BIG B-BOSS!

R-ROCK KRUSHER SAYS THESE TUNNELS ARE H-HAUNTED-- BY THE GHOSTS OF GIANT ALBINO ALLIGATORS-- B-BROUGHT UP FROM FLORIDA AND F-FLUSHED BEFORE THEIR TI--

HALT! ZEET WHO GOES THERE? TEET
YAHH!
KONK

IT'S ONLY A ROBOT, BERSERKO. ITS NAME IS BUZZBOMB, BERSERKO. REMEMBER, BERSERKO?
HOW COULD MY BROTHER RAISE SUCH AN IDIOT? HMM... MAYBE HE WAS ADOPTED...

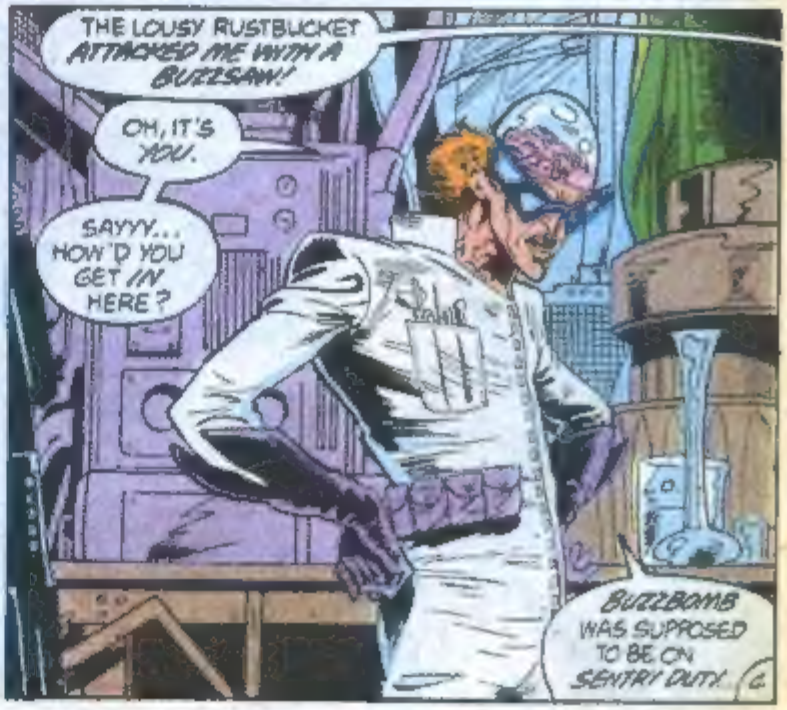

NOW OUTTA MY WAY, RUSTBUCKET -- I'M HERE TO SEE YOUR ALMOST-HUMAN MASTER...
URF
ROWF
MUMMM...

BADVIBES! YOU HERE?! TURN ON THE LIGHTS, YOU SCRAWNY LITTLE FREAK!
YEAH-- OUTTA THE WAY, RUST-BUCKET!
KLONK

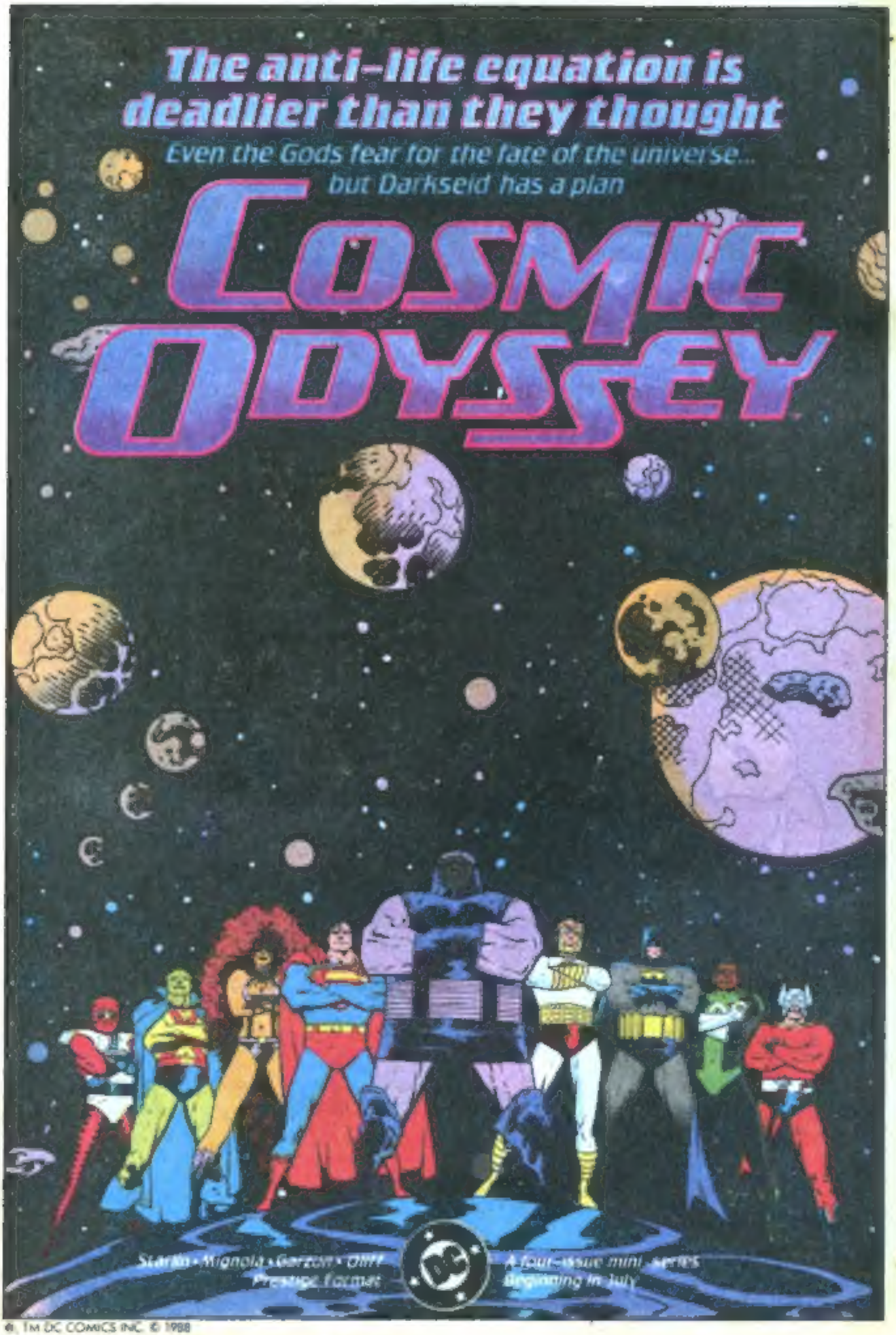
ZHRRRR

HEY!
ZHRRR-SPAP
WHAT THE--?!

HE CUT MY BELT!!
WHAT'S ALL THE CACOPHONY? CAN'T A MAD GENIUS GET ANY SLEEP AROUND HERE?


THE LOUSY RUSTBUCKET ATTACKED ME WITH A BUZZSAW!
OH, IT'S YOU.
SAYYY... HOW'D YOU GET IN HERE?
BUZZBOMB WAS SUPPOSED TO BE ON SENTRY DUTY.

Candi'licious
Candi'licious
Bigger Than You Figure.



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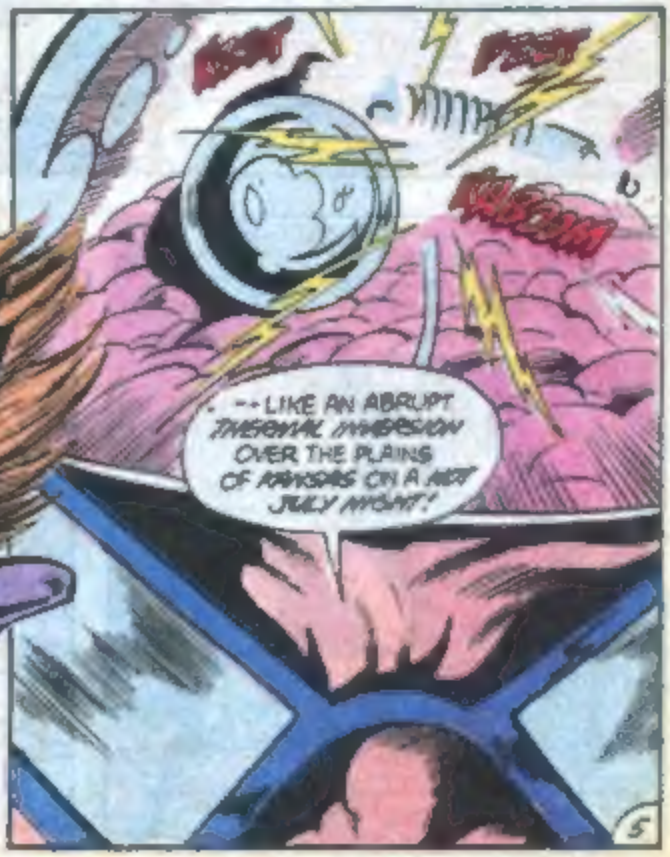
THE LOUSY RUSTBUCKET SLICED MY BELT!
IT'S BECAUSE YOU'RE ALWAYS INSULTING HIM, BERSERKO! I'VE TOLD YOU THAT BEFORE!
OH, I SUPPOSE THE THING'S GOT FEELINGS, HUH? I SUPPOSE IT CAN THINK?!
CONSIDERABLY BETTER THAN YOU! IN FACT, IT'S COGNITIVE CAPACITY IS--

SHADDUP, THE BOTH OF YEZ!!

AWRIGHT! NOW, IT'S A WEEK SINCE I SET YOU UP DOWN HERE WITH ALL THIS JUNK, BADVIBES. SO WHAT YOU GOT?
WELL, BIG BOSS...
THE FIRST THING I GOT AFTER EXPLORING THIS MAGNIFICENT SUBTERRANEAN LABYRINTH—

--WAS A BRAINSTORM!
AND NOT JUST ANY OLD BRAIN-STORM!
NO, THIS WAS A BEAUT--


--LIKE AN ABRUPT THERMAL INVERSION OVER THE PLAINS OF KANSAS ON A HOT JULY NIGHT!

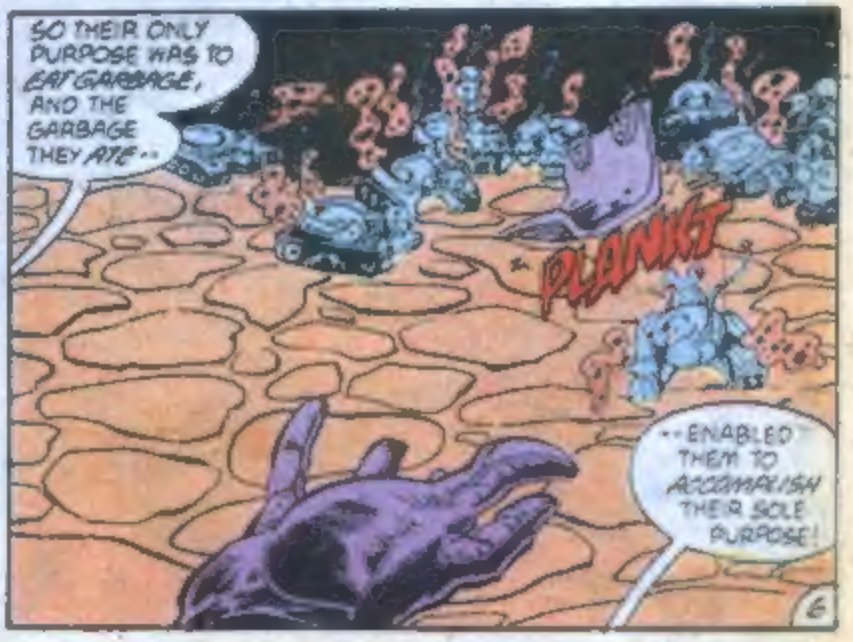
AND WHAT, PRAY TELL, STIMULATED THIS CLOUD-BUSTER DURING YOUR EXPLORATION OF THIS MAGNIFICENT SUBTERRANEAN LABYRINTH?
A RAT!
A RAT.

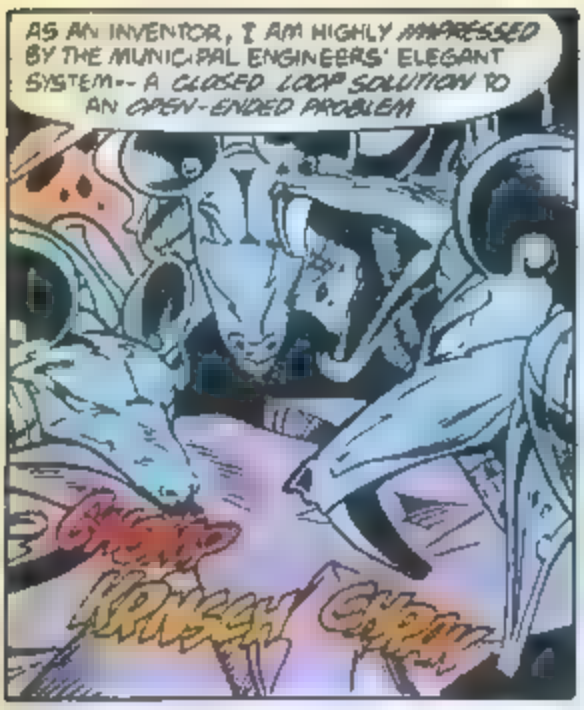
PRECISELY! IN THE OLD DAYS, YOU SEE, THESE SEWERS WERE FOREVER GETTING CLOGGED WITH FLOTSAM, JETSAM, DETRITUS, LITTER--
--AND ALL MANNER OF OTHER NASTY GARBAGE IN GENERAL!

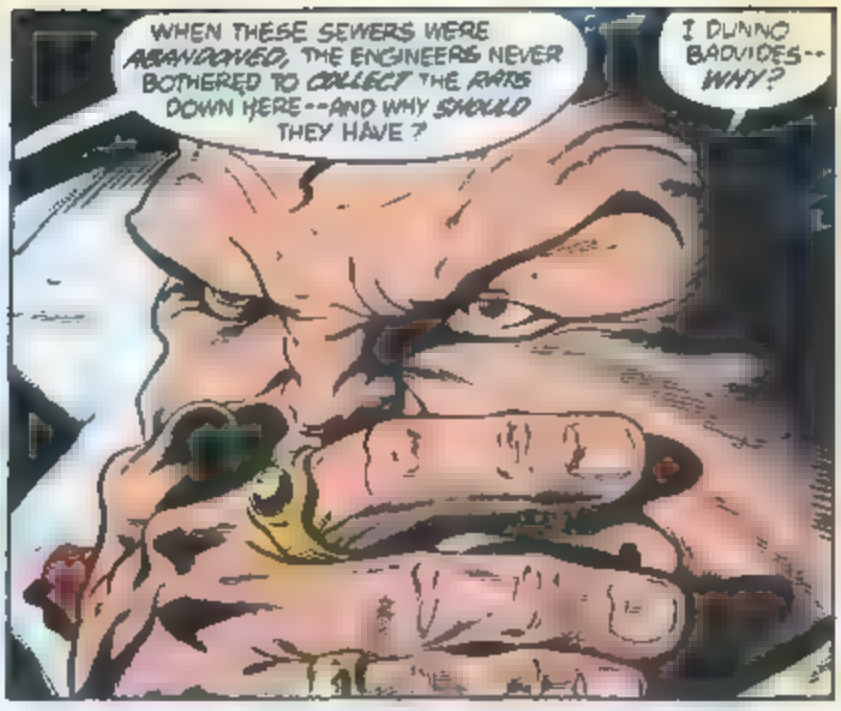
ENTER: THE R.A.T.S.--
--ROAMING ASSIMILATORS OF TUNNEL SEWAGE!
SKRRR SKRRK SKRRR
TA DRAA!!

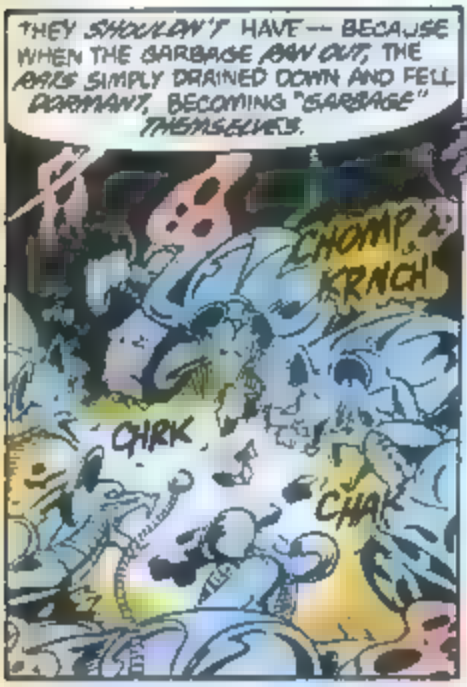
R-R-ROBOT R-R-RATS!
AND THE GHOST GATORS CAN'T BE FAR BEHIND!

THE RATS ATE THE GARBAGE-- AND THEY CONVERTED THE GARBAGE TO A LOW-GRADE FORM OF ATOMIC FUEL ON WHICH THEY RAN!
PUNCHT

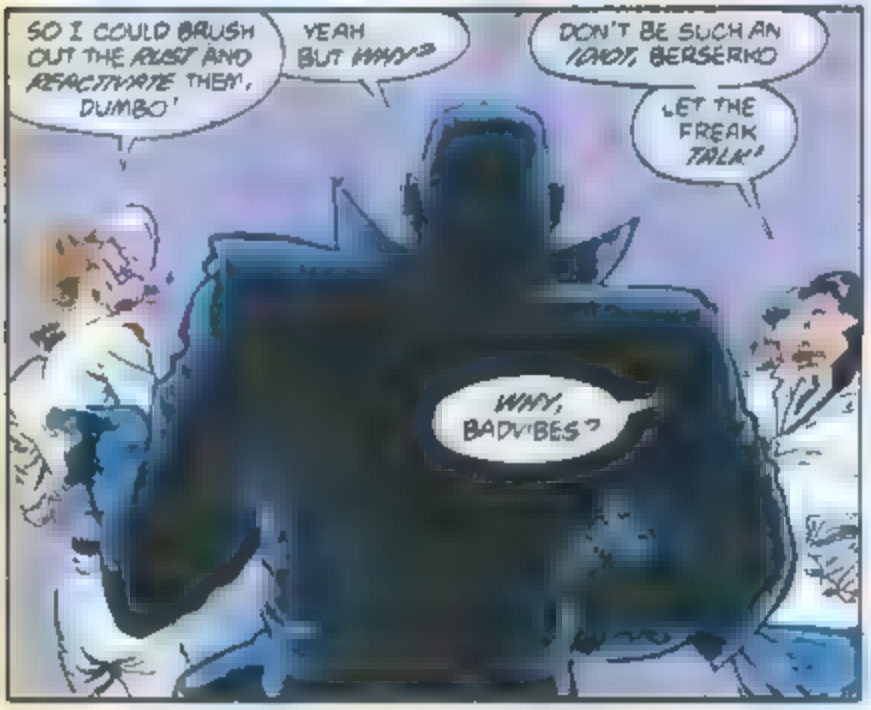

SO THEIR ONLY PURPOSE WAS TO EAT GARBAGE, AND THE GARBAGE THEY ATE--
PLANKT
--ENABLED THEM TO ACCOMPLISH THEIR SOLE PURPOSE!


AS AN INVENTOR, I AM HIGHLY IMPRESSED BY THE MUNICIPAL ENGINEERS' ELEGANT SYSTEM-- A CLOSED LOOP SOLUTION TO AN OPEN-ENDED PROBLEM
CRUNCH
CRUNCH


WHEN THESE SEWERS WERE ABANDONED, THE ENGINEERS NEVER BOTHERED TO COLLECT THE RATS DOWN HERE--AND WHY SHOULD THEY HAVE?
I DUNNO BADVIBES-- WHY?


THEY SHOULDN'T HAVE -- BECAUSE WHEN THE GARBAGE RAN OUT, THE RATS SIMPLY DRAINED DOWN AND FELL DORMANT, BECOMING "GARBAGE" THEMSELVES.
CHOMP
KRACH
CHRK
CHAK

WITHOUT "FOOD," THEY "DIED"
UNTIL I CAME ALONG, ANYWAY, AND COLLECTED A GOODLY NUMBER OF THE LITTLE BEASTIES!
GEE WHY?


SO I COULD BRUSH OUT THE RUST AND REACTIVATE THEM, DUMBO!
YEAH BUT WHY?
DON'T BE SUCH AN IDIOT, BERSERKO
LET THE FREAK TALK!
WHY, BADVIBES?

SO I COULD SEE IF THE REPROGRAMMING I DID BEFORE REACTIVATING THEM ACTUALLY WORKED.
DID IT?

OF COURSE I DID!
I'VE EXPANDED THEIR DIET... AND THE RATS EAT FAR MORE THAN MERE GARBAGE NOW
THEY EAT WHATEVER I WANT THEM TO EAT!
SUCH AS?
YOU MAKE IT BIG BOSS THE TEMPERED STEEL OF A BANK VAULT DOOR?
FILET MIGNON?
THE PLASTI-CRETE FOUNDATIONS OF A POLICE PRECINCT?
FISH AND CHIPS?
FLESH AND BONE?
UH I SEE.
THE FABRIC OF COPS UNIFORMS?
COPS WEAPONS? VEHICLES? LUNCHBOXES?
I SAID I SEE, BADDIES NOW UH, MANY OF "THESE RATS" DO YOU HAVE?
OH PLENTY HEE HEE HEE!
HOW MANY IS PLENTY?
FAR MORE THAN ENOUGH TO BECOME WHAT I'VE DECIDED TO BECOME
BEE-BEE-BEE BOO-BOO
SKRRR
SKRR
SKRRR
SKRR
SKRRR
SKRRR
SKR
AND, UH... WH-WHAT HAVE YOU.. DECIDED TO BECOME BADDIES?

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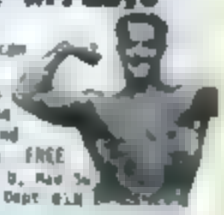

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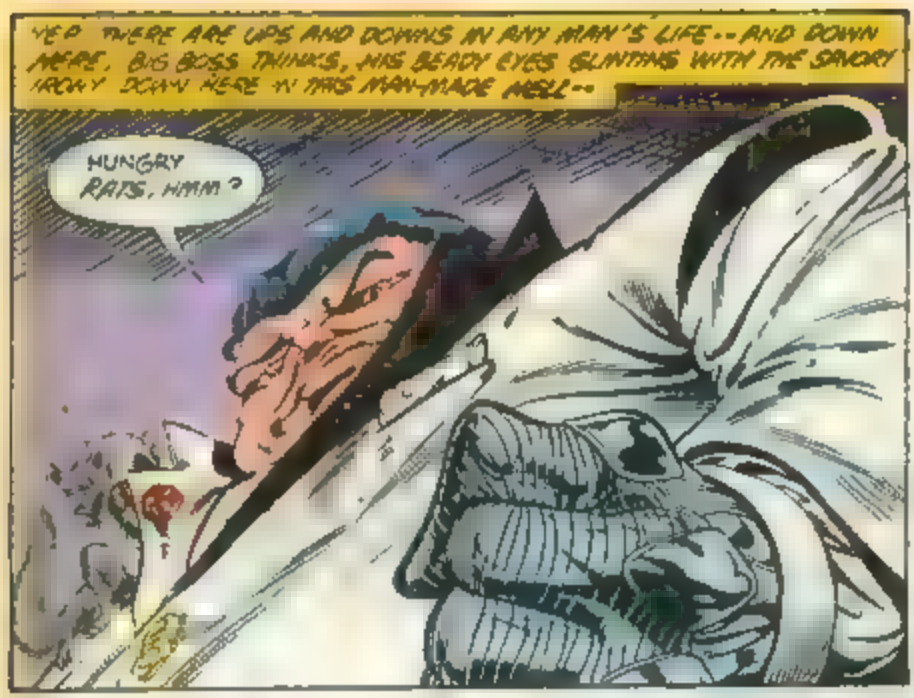
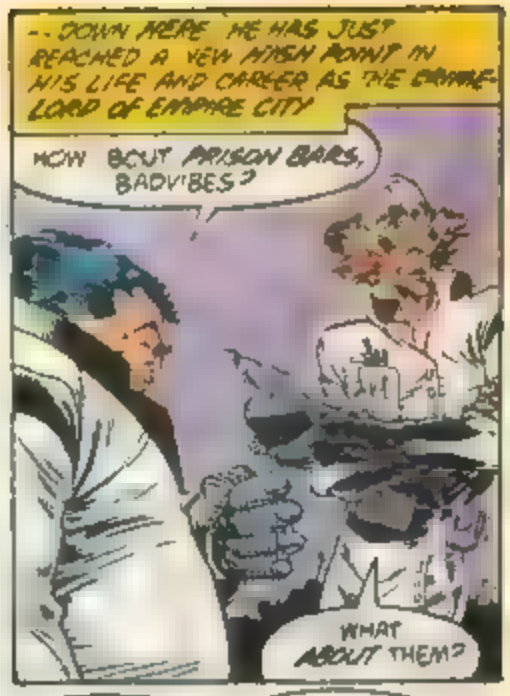
Y-YEAH BUT I GIGIMME THE GHIGHOST GIGATORS ANY DAY


YEP THERE ARE UPS AND DOWNS IN ANY MAN'S LIFE -- AND DOWN HERE, BIG BOSS THINKS, HIS BEADY EYES GLINTING WITH THE SAVORY IRONY DOWN HERE IN THIS MAN-MADE HELL --
HUNGRY RATS, HMM?

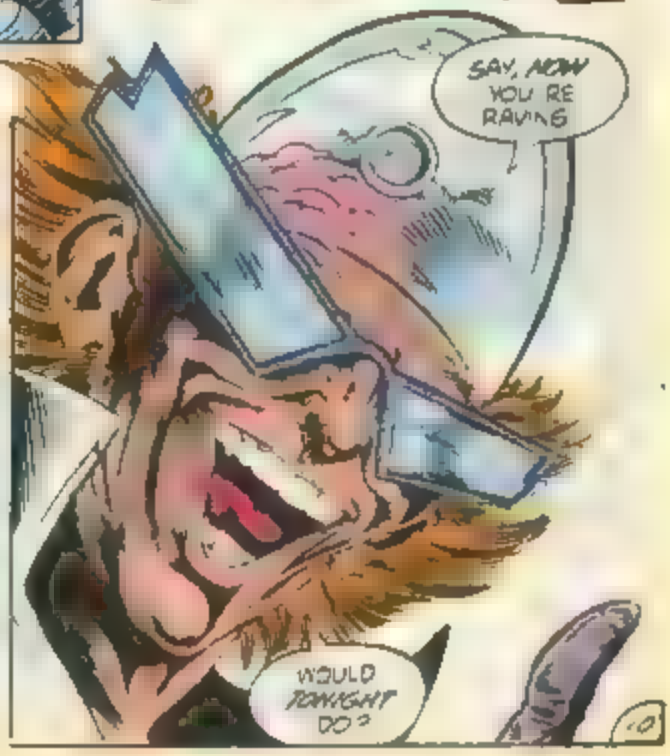

-- DOWN HERE HE HAS JUST REACHED A NEW HIGH POINT IN HIS LIFE AND CAREER AS THE CRIME-LORD OF EMPIRE CITY
HOW 'BOUT PRISON BARS, BADDIES?
WHAT ABOUT THEM?

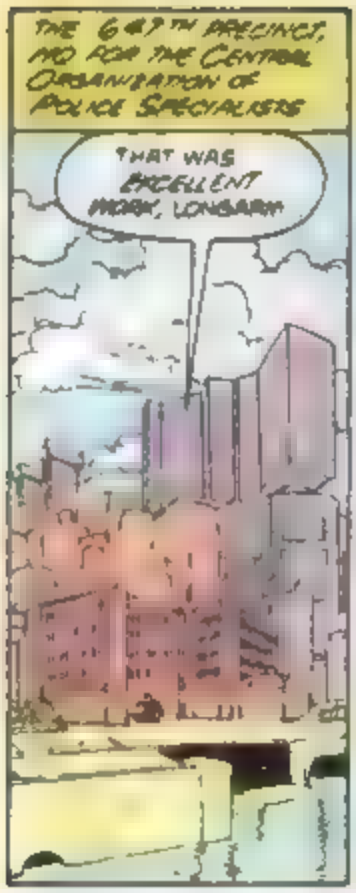
YOU MAY'VE HEARD, BIG-BRAIN, THAT I RECENTLY LOST BUTTONS McBOOMBOOM TO THE LONG CUFF O' THE STINKIN' LAW
TSK TSK
DID YOU REALLY?

YOU DON'T THINK THAT CLOWN IS MY REGULAR BODYGUARD DO YA?

NOW HOW 'BOUT IT? CAN THESE RATS OF YOURS EAT PRISON BARS?
YOU MEAN ALL YOU WANT TO DO IS BUST OUT McBOOMBOOM? THAT'S EASY - BUT IS THAT IT?

NO THAT AIN'T IT! I ALSO WANT YOU TO EMPTY THE JAILS WHILE YOU'RE AT IT!
I WANT THE STREETS CRAWLIN' WITH THUGS AND HOODS I WANT ANARCHY! I WANT THE COPS SO BUSY CHASIN' DOWN A THOUSAND CHEAP GOONIES AND GAZOONIES THAT THEY WON'T HAVE TIME TO EVEN THINK ABOUT OUR GANG


SAY, NOW YOU'RE RAVING
WOULD TONIGHT DO?


THE 6[illegible]TH PRECINCT, HQ FOR THE CENTRAL ORGANIZATION OF POLICE SPECIALISTS
THAT WAS EXCELLENT WORK, LONGARM

INDEED. YOUR CAPTURE OF BUTTONS McSOOMSOOM WAS A SEVERE BLOW TO BIG BOSS'S ENTIRE CRIMINAL EMPIRE
AFTER WHAT BUTTONS DID TO MY FAMILY, AGENT VESS IT WAS EITHER HIM OR ME
BETTER HIM

PRECISELY-- AND LET'S HOPE HE STAYS BEHIND BARS.
SPEAKING OF WHICH, SIR

PERMISSION GRANTED, LONGARM-- TAKE MARDROP AS YOUR DRIVER
SO WHY THIS JAUNT TO THE BIG HOUSE, P.J.?
JUST A FEEL[redacted] DONNY, LIKE AN ITCH UNDER THE [redacted]

BUT LET'S JUST CHALK IT UP TO PARANOIA
YEAH LET'S
BECAUSE AS LONG AS I'VE BEEN YOUR PARTNER P.J. I'VE NEVER HEED YOUR FEELINGS

SOON, IN THE FORBODING HALLS THEMSELVES...
YOU STAY HERE DONNY-- I WON'T BE LONG
OKAY P.J. BUT IF YOU NEED ME GIVE A SQUEAK ON THE OLD HOUSE RADIO

NEARBY, AS NIGHTFALL APPROACHES
YOU KNOW WHAT TO DO, BUZZBOMB--SO JUST BE CAREFUL WITH THOSE REMOTE CONTROL PIPES
ROGER BOSS. ZEET PIECE OF CAKE DEET
REMEMBER ONCE THEY'RE OUT, JUST LEAD EVERYONE--RATS AND CONS--TO THE MANHOLE ON JARVIK STREET
I KNOW THE WAY, BOSS VEEB
HURRY IT UP BADVIBES SO WE CAN BOOK OUTTA THIS PLACE
BEIN THIS CLOSE TO THE BIG JOINT GIVES ME THE CREEPS!
KEEP YOUR SHADES ON, TURBO!
ALL RIGHT, BUZZBOMB, ROLL--AND I'LL BE WAITING FOR [illegible] DOWN IN OUR UNDERGROUND LAIR
GOTCHA BOSS. MEEB
HAVE MY SLIPPERS AND A GRAPHITE COCKTAIL WAITING, HUH? ZEEB
HEH HEH HEH SUCH A FAITHFUL ROBOT COMPANION
ALL RIGHT TURBO! RETRACT THE RAMP AND LET'S "BOOK" AS YOU SO COARSELY PHRASE IT
HUMANS--PEAH!

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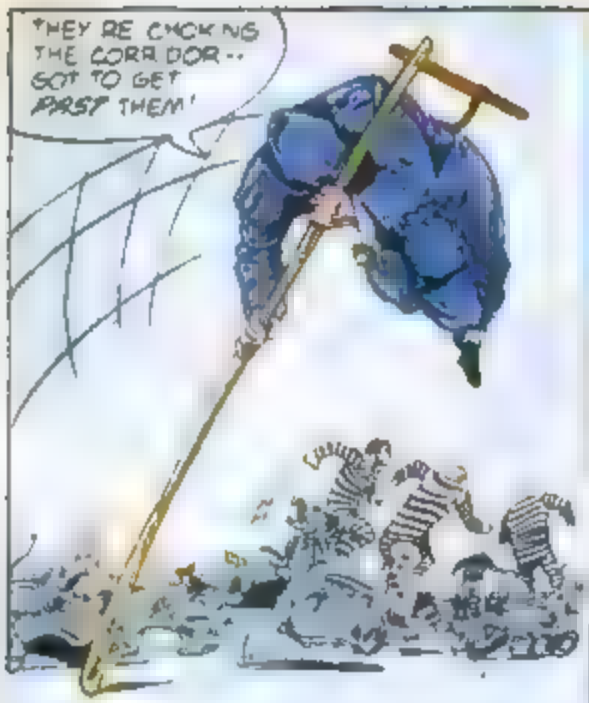
MEANWHILE INSIDE THE AWESOME PRISON
-- SO YOU SEE, OFFICER O'MALLEY, OUR SECURITY IS TIGHTER THAN EVER AND NOTHING CAN GET IN OR OUT OF HERE IF WE DON'T WANT IT
BELIEVE ME
NOTHING
SO YOU SAID
HEY WHAT'S THAT? LIKE THE GROUND'S MOVING
PUT A LIGHT DOWN THERE
HUH?! WH WHAT ARE THOSE THINGS?!
I DUNNO - BUT MAYBE WE SHOULD SHOOT NOW AND WONDER LATER?
KEEP ROLLING RATS DEET EAT THOSE WALLS AND BARS ZEET
BEE-BOOP-A-DOOP
READY AIM
ZZZZZZZ
KRNCH
CHOMP
3

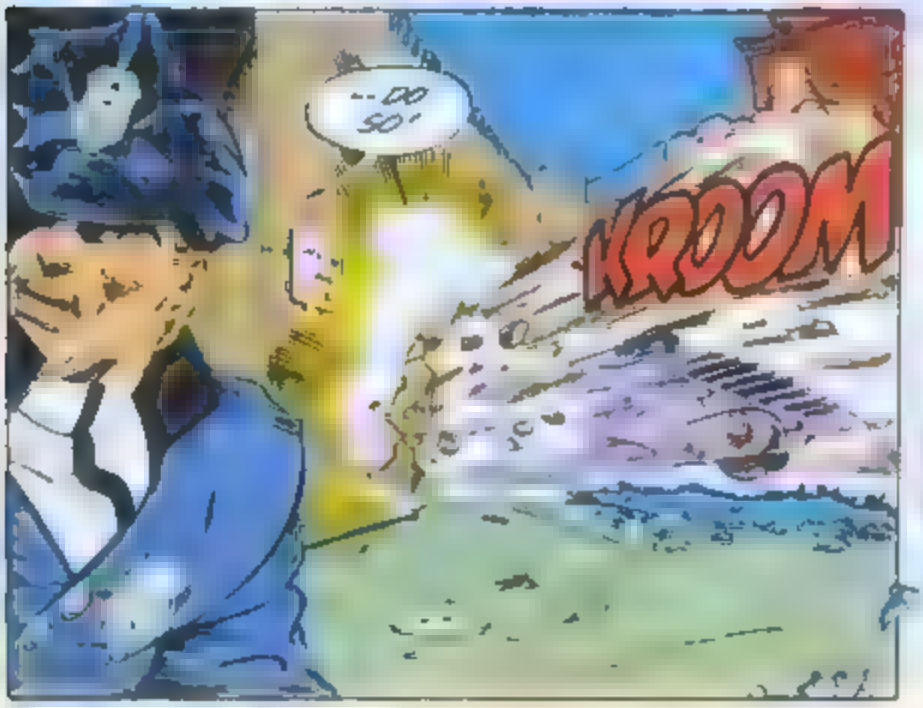
"...FIRE!!"
BOOM
BOOM
BOOM
SPAM
SPAM
ZZZZ
H-HUH?! SHOTS--?!
THEY CHEWED THROUGH THE FOUNDATION!
THE WALLS COLLAPSING!
WHAT THE--?! YOU AND YOUR FEELINGS," P.J.
I TOLD YOU THOSE WERE SHOTS I HEARD WARDEN.
--AND THAT LAST NOISE SOUNDED LIKE AN EXPLOSION!
WHAT IN THE--? THOSE THINGS ARE CHEWING THROUGH THE BARS-- FREEING THE PRISONERS!
AND IN THE CELL OF BUTTONS MCBOOMBOOM
IT'S ABOUT TIME


THEY'RE CLOSING THE CORRIDOR-- GOT TO GET PAST THEM!

AND OUT IN THE YARD IT'S SUPER BEDLAM
MOVE YER TAIL OR SET IT TROMPED!
FREEDOM! YEEHAHAHA!

HARDTOP! I NEED HELP--IN THE YARD!
ON MY WAY, D--!

WHAT ABOUT US?!
JUST HEAD FOR THE UPPER FLOORS AND STAY AWAY FROM ANY CELLS! THERE ARE TOO MANY OF THESE LITTLE THINGS TO STOP
BUT IF YOU CAN APPREHEND ANY OF THE ESCAPING CONS

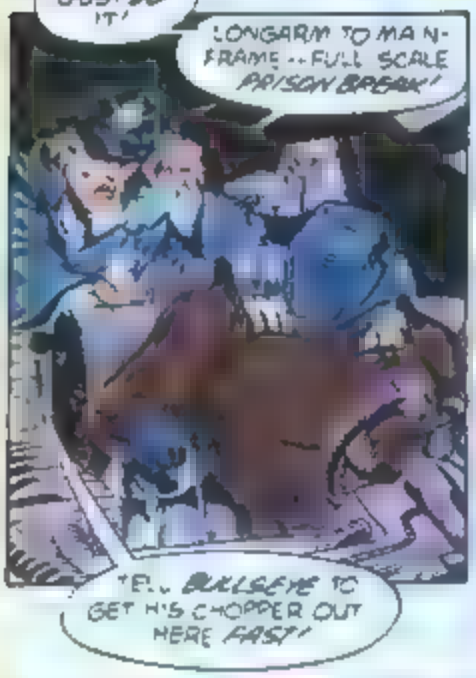

--DO SO!
KRDOM

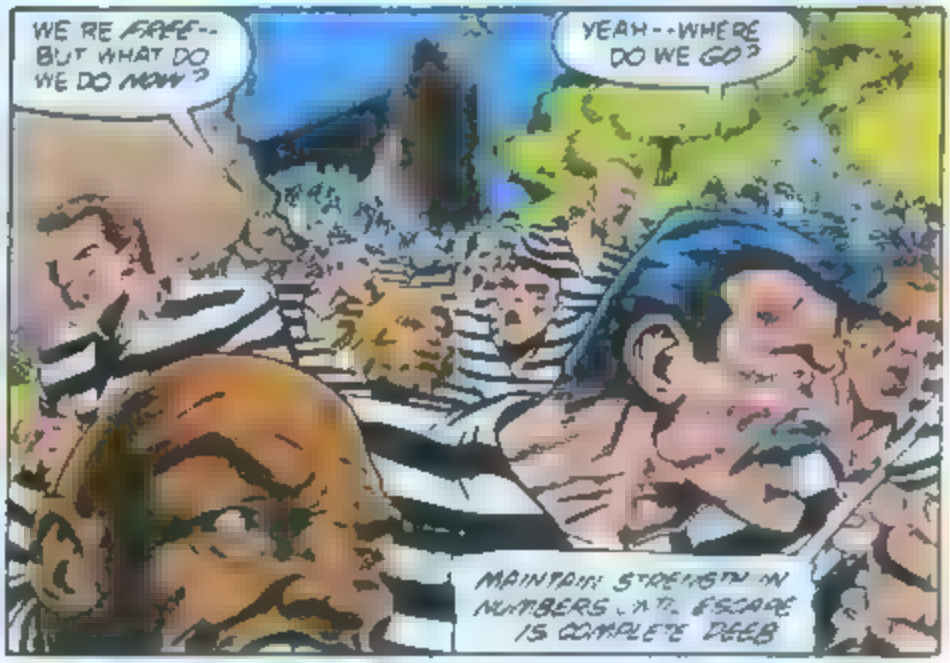
OTHERWISE JUST PROTECT YOURSELVES AND WAIT FOR HELP!

ALL RIGHT, HARDTOO LET'S--

--MOVE?
UH-OH, P.J.

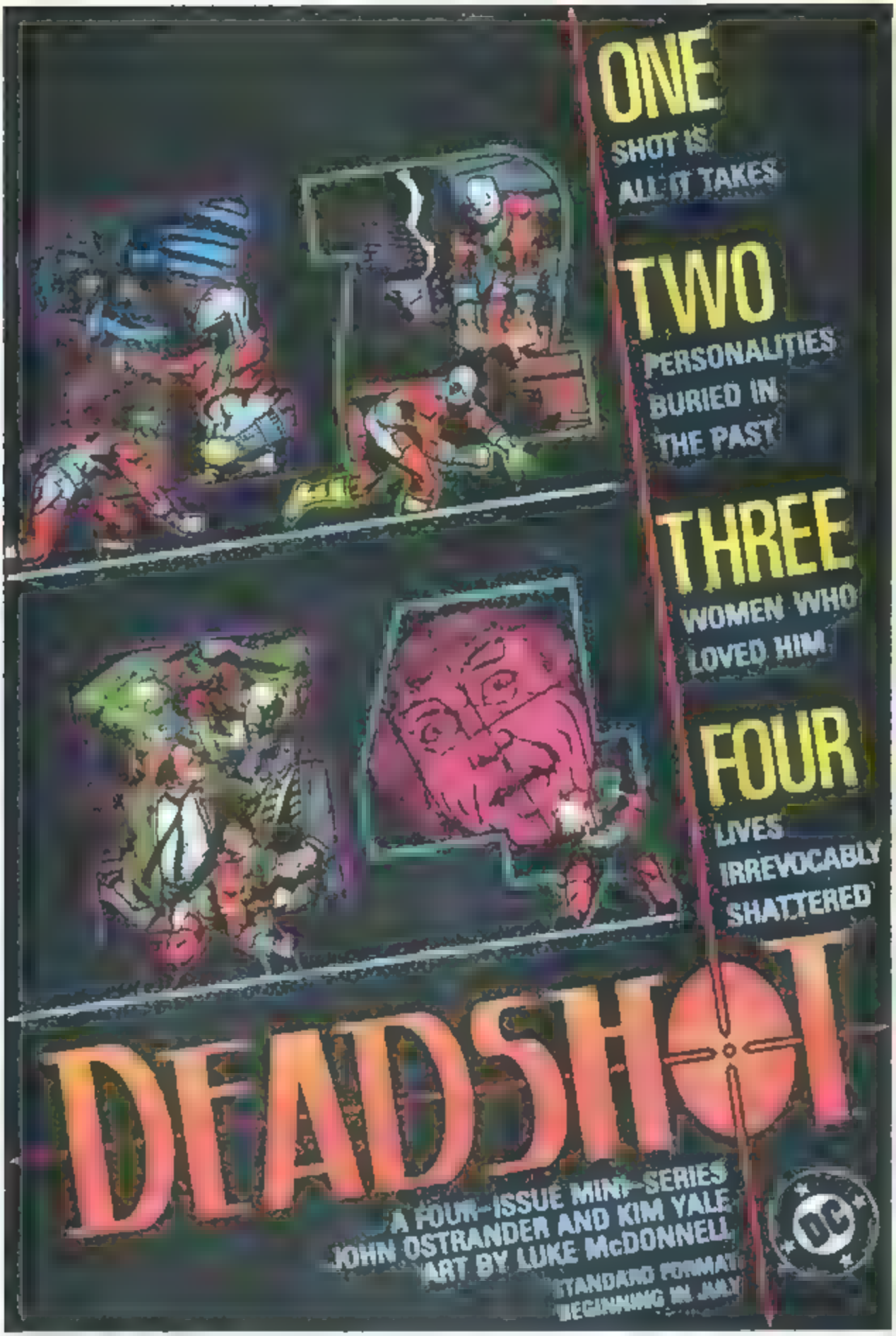
I JUST PLOWED A PERFECT ESCAPE ROUTE FOR THE CONS--AND NOW WE'RE STUCK IN THIS RUBBLE! GONNA TAKE FOREVER TO BACK AND HOE AND JAM OUR WAY FREE!


JUST DO IT!
LONGARM TO MAIN-FRAME--FULL SCALE PRISON BREAK!
TEL. BULLSEYE TO GET HIS CHOPPER OUT HERE FAST!


WE'RE FREE--BUT WHAT DO WE DO NOW?
YEAH--WHERE DO WE GO?
MAINTAIN STRENGTH IN NUMBERS UNTIL ESCAPE IS COMPLETE DEEB

FOLLOW ME AND YOU WILL BE FED CLOTHED AND PAYED - DEEB - THEY FREE TO GO DEEB
HUH?

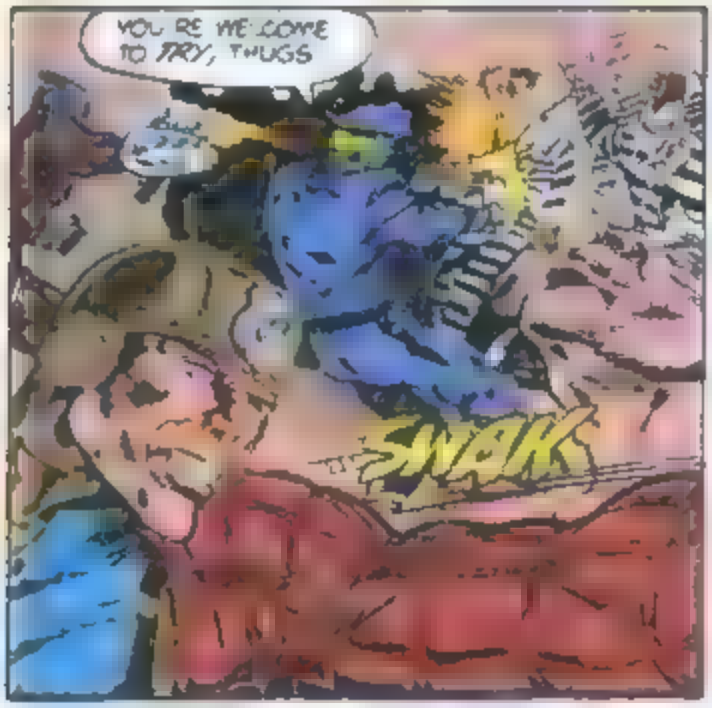
SOUNDS LIKE A GOOD DEAL TO ME! FOLLOW THE ROBOT!
NERTZ TO THAT


ONE
SHOT IS
ALL IT TAKES
TWO
PERSONALITIES
BURIED IN
THE PAST
THREE
WOMEN WHO
LOVED HIM
FOUR
LIVES
IRREVOCABLY
SHATTERED
DEADSHOT
A FOUR-ISSUE MINI-SERIES
JOHN OSTRANDER AND KIM YALE
ART BY LUKE McDONNELL
STANDARD FORMAT
BEGINNING IN JULY

AS FOR THE OTHERS, THEY ARE SPOTTED WITHIN FIVE MINUTES
FOR SOME REASON THEY'RE STAYING TOGETHER MAINFRAME--LED BY A ROBOT BELIEVE IT OR NOT . .
BUT IF WE MOVE ON THEM THEY'LL SCATTER IN EVERY DIRECTION
TELL YESS WE'D BE LUCKY TO BAG DIVE IN TEN!
BULLSEYE SAYS--
HE'S RIGHT
AND THE ROBOT MUST BE THE KEY MAKING FOR A VERY CRAZY NOTION BUT ON THE OTHER HAND WHAT HAVE WE GOT TO LOSE?
"CRAZY NOTION," SIR?
HIGHWAY GRAB A PORTABLE RADIO TRANSMITTER AND JETCYCLE STRAIGHT TO BULLSEYE'S POSITION
YES, SIR!
I WANT THE REST OF YOU--IN FULL GEAR - OVER AT THE OLD POLICE WAREHOUSE, AWAITING FURTHER ORDERS
MAINFRAME HIGHWAY'S GOT TO GAIN RADIO CONTROL OF THAT ROBOT
BUT WE DON'T KNOW ITS FREQUENCY
LOCK YOUR COMPUTER ON HIGHWAY'S PORTABLE TRANSMITTER AND START RUNNING THROUGH EVERY FREQUENCY THERE IS
SOON
I'M IN POSITION MAINFRAME
THEN POINT YOUR TRANSMITTER AT THE ROBOT HIGHWAY AND WHEN HE TURNS LEFT TELL ME

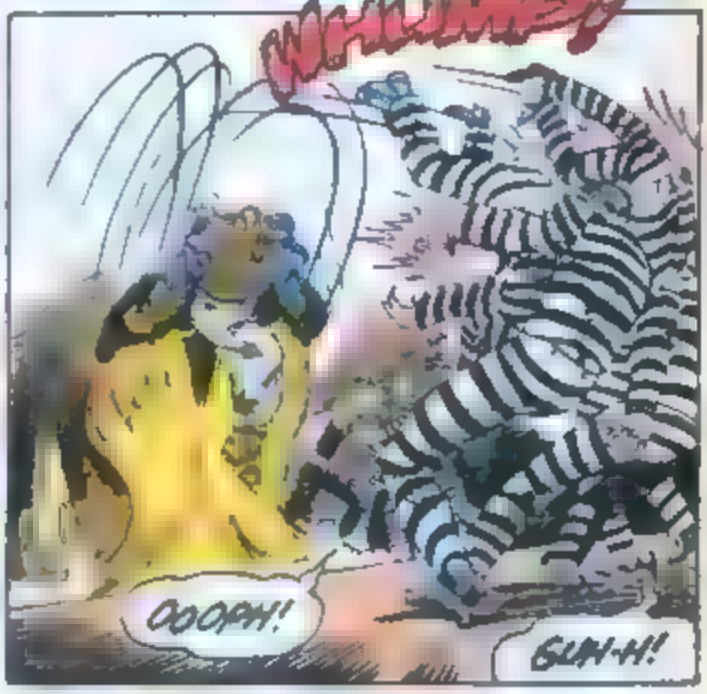
NOTHING YET MAIN-FRAME
THE ROBOT IS STILL LEADING THEM STRAIGHT UP JARVIK
WAIT A MINUTE
WRONG TURN ZEET
CAN'T CONTROL MYSELF! VEET
WHAT'D HE SAY?
WHO CARES? WE'RE FREE!
YES, IT'S WORKING!
HOLD THIS FREQUENCY, MAINFRAME THE ROBOT TURNED!
GOT HIM SIR!
THEN JUST GUIDE HIM THROUGH ALL THE TURNS TO THE WAREHOUSE, MAINFRAME
AND CALL LONGARM AND HARDTOP -- IF THEY'RE FREE YET GIVE THEM THE ADDRESS OF THE PARTY
FINALLY SOME TWENTY MINUTES LATER
UH OH DEET CAN'T STOP! SKEET
HEY, MAYBE THIS IS THE PLACE WHERE WE GET THE EATS AND THE GUNS!
YEAH -- THE ROBOT IS LEADIN' US INSIDE AIN'T HE?
BUT IT SURE IS DARK IN HERE
YEAH -- WONDER WHAT HAPPENS NOW?
GOOD DRIVING, HARDTOP -- WE MADE THE PARTY JUST IN TIME!
HEY! WHAT THE ?!
SCRAPE
8

A RIGHT MACE
FLATCH
BLAST THE ROBOT!
WITH GUSTO, BOWSER!
KAVAOW
MM
AND AS THE "PIED PIPER" GOES TO PIECES--
--RATS COLLAPSE, AND CHEESEN COWS PANIC
LEMME OUTTA HERE! MAKE A BREAK FOR IT!
NOT THIS TIME, BOYS
WE WE'RE SURROUNDED?! TRAPPED LIKE RATS?!
THAT'S RIGHT-- AND IF YOU'RE SMART YOU'LL SURRENDER WITHOUT RESISTANCE
BUT CROOKS OF COURSE ARE ANYTHING BUT SMART
IT WAS ALL A TRICK!
ATTACK!!
KILL EM!!
9


YOU RE WE COME TO TRY, THUGS
SWAK

BUT DOOMED TO FAIL!

VROOOSH


WHUMP!
OOOPH!
GUH-H!

PSSST!
YOU HOMBRES EVER HEAR O BOLO-BALLS?
HUH? US...?

NO?
WELL NOW MEBBE WE BETTER JEST FIX THAT LITTLE HOLE IN YORE KNOWLEDGE

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HOMBRES, I'D LIKE YUH TO MEET--
BHOOF
THWIP
WIP WIP
--THE BOLO-BALLS!
NOT BAD, SUNDOWN..
BUT I STILL PREFER MY MULE
POCHOH
GOOPH!
ROWF! ROWF!
ATTABOY, BLITZ!
RAHRRRR
TEAMWORK TURNS THE TRICK EVERY TIME!
TOP
INDEED-- AND BEFORE LONG...
YESS'S TRAP WORKED, LONGARM-- AND THIS'S ALL OF THEM
EXCEPT ONE, MACE
THE ONE CALLED BUTTONS McBOOMBOOM
AND RECALLING THE SAVAGE VISIT BUTTONS ONCE PAID TO HIS FAMILY, LONGARM REALIZES THEY ARE MERELY BACK TO SQUARE ONE NOW... AND YET HE VOWS NEVER TO GIVE UP THE MATCH
2

YEAH, THERE ARE UPS AND DOWNS IN EVERY MAN'S LIFE
I'VE BEEN SABOTAGED! MY RATS ARE ALL DEAD-- AND POOR FAITHFUL BUZZBOMB HAS BEEN CAPTURED!
WHAT ABOUT THE ESCAPED CONS BADVIBES?
WHO CARES ABOUT THEM? IF THEY WERE STUPID ENOUGH TO GET CAUGHT IN THE FIRST PLACE THEN THEY'RE BACK WHERE THEY BELONG!
AND IF YOU THINK EXCHANGING McBOOMBOOM FOR BUZZBOMB WAS A GOOD TRADE--
AW, SHUDDUP ABOUT THAT STUPID RUSTBUCKET!
AND, AFTER A STABBED BUTTON TURNS BADVIBES TO STATIC...
WELL THERE GOES MY ANARCHY
YEAH BOSS BUT AT LEAST WE GOT RIDDA THAT DUMB ROBOT
AND WE DID GET BUTTONS SPRUNG
--AND YA ALWAYS GOT--
--M-M-M-ME?
UPS AND DOWNS TRIUMPHS AND DEFEATS.
YEAH BERSERKO I'VE ALWAYS GOT YOU
AND HERE IN HIS PLUSH PENTHOUSE AT THE VERY TOP OF THE CITY BIGBOSS SICKLY SINKS TO A NEW LOW
22

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Just as the COPS squad employs high-tech agents in the pursuit of justice, so does the city's criminal element, in the form of The Big Boss and his henchmen.

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THE BIG BOSS

On the surface The Big Boss appears to be nothing more than a successful businessman. In actuality, he is the ruthless head of a vast criminal network who cruises Empire City in his elegant limousine, which contains a veritable arsenal of hidden weapons.

The Big Boss rules crime in Empire City with an iron fist—literally. A freak accident cost him his left hand, and he now sports a powerful stainless steel replacement. Likewise, his constant companion, a weasel named Scratch, is also part bionic. Rounding out his retinue is his gnomish valet, Squeaky Clean, who caters to The Big Boss' obsession with personal hygiene.

In spite of his criminal activities, The Big Boss has never been arrested or [redacted]

Dr. Percy Kramer: DR. BADVIBES

A criminal genius whose head is topped with a plexiglass dome, Kramer builds automatons in his quest to create the ultimate crime machine. He is aided in the endeavor by his robotic sidekick, Buzzbomb.

Kramer was a brilliant biomechanical engineer, until he became his own subject in an experiment to boost intelligence. He sought to expand his brain, replacing the top of his head with an impenetrable plexiglass dome. Unfortunately, the experiment made Kramer mentally unstable. Other side effects included a lack of need to sleep, "brain storms" of electrical activity beneath his dome, and the inadvertent activation of nearby electrical systems. Because of his bizarre appearance, Kramer rarely venures out of his laboratory undisguised; the more outrageously his identity is concealed, the more comfortable he is.

Along with his automatons, each of which lack intelligence and have an unintentional "Achilles's heel," Kramer has created an electronic monocle which is linked to his optic nerve and allows him access to computer networks.

BUTTONS McBOOMBOOM

The enforcer for The Big Boss' criminal empire, Buttons performs his duties with an arsenal of weapons and surveillance equipment implanted in his chest.

Buttons was injured in the bomb blast intended to kill S.V. Vess, the COPS agent known better as Bulletproof. Like Vess, Buttons became a partial cyborg as a result. Preferring to intimidate his victims rather than injure them, Buttons destroys their belongings as a means of coercing them to follow The Big Boss' dictates. His "calling card" is a skull and crossbones made of bullet holes.

Slender and wiry, Buttons is a man of few words and in his own case carries a violin, a sentimental reminder of his former career in music.

"Junior" BERSERKO

The Big Boss' nephew and right-hand man, Berserko operates a sideshow of carnival geeks as a front for fencing hot items and laundering money.

Although Berserko is reckless and lacks intelligence, his massive build and kamikaze tendencies make him useful to his uncle. Berserko is assisted by Teddy, a seven-foot teddy bear automaton that can "hug" others into submission upon Berserko's command.

Goldie Locks: MS. DEMEANOR

Once she was a female wrestler, but now Ms. Demeanor is a petty criminal with ambitions of taking over The Big Boss' empire.

She has no respect for the law or the mob, refusing to follow orders. Aggressive and loud, Ms. Demeanor is confident that she can best all comers, either by using her brute strength or applying her criminal tendencies.

ROCK KRUSHER

Escaping from prison is Rock Krusher's major talent—he's spent most of his adult life behind bars. He periodically infiltrates prisons, recruiting criminals' talents for The Big Boss.

Rock was once a gator wrestler in the Deep South until his love of partying and his gullibility led him to fall in with the wrong people and surrender to the lure of easy money. He was also forced to surrender to the law a number of times, but his claustrophobia prompted him to break out from prison with increasing frequency until he met The Big Boss.

Still dressed in prison stripes and carrying a jackhammer—a token of the Boss' esteem—Rock remains as gullible as ever. He is infatuated with Ms. Demeanor and allows her to use him to fo[illegible] many of The Big Boss' plans.

TURBO TU-TONE

A getaway driver for the mob, Turbo is also an automotive genius who can manipulate any type of car, boat, or plane with ease, outfitting them with the latest high-tech weaponry.

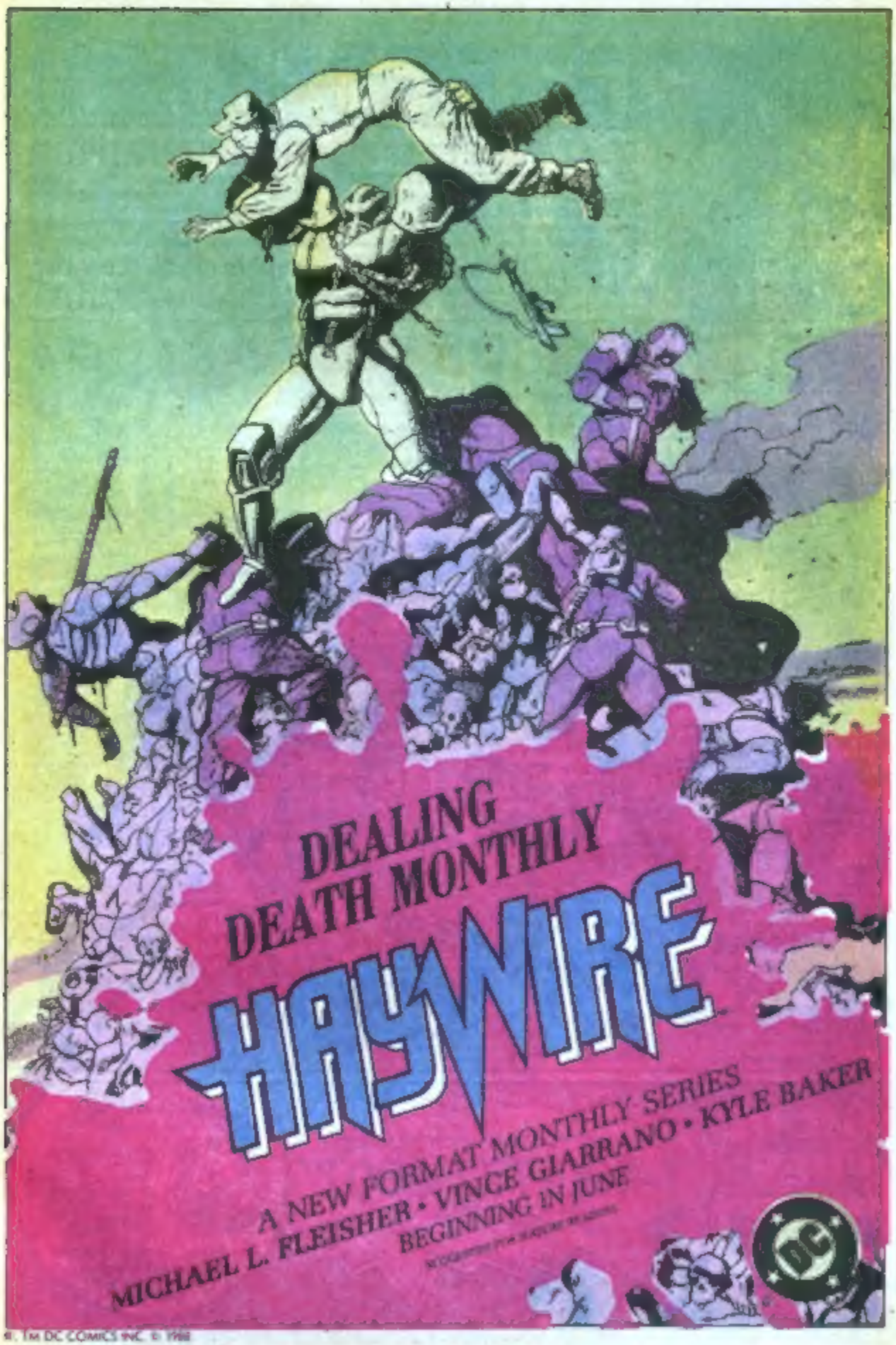
Like his good buddy Berserko, Turbo is reckless and loves destruction, creating vehicles that can smash or chop their way through any barrier. Berserko frequently uses his buddy's talents without The Big Boss' permission.

While on job, Turbo wears stained overalls; otherwise Turbo is decked out in skintight chinos with two-tone shoes that leave grease tracks wherever he [redacted]

Rafaella Diamond: MIRAGE

A beautiful heiress turned cat burglar, Diamond preys on the elite of Empire City under The Big Boss' guidance, employing an array of sophisticated tools developed by Dr. Badvibes.

Diamond turned to crime to satisfy her taste for wealth after she lost her fortune gambling with The Big Boss in a rigged game. Now she continues her crime spree for the sheer enjoyment of it, making each robbery more flamboyant than the last. Her alias, Mirage, comes from her appearance—pale skin and dark hair—and her light sensitive eyes.



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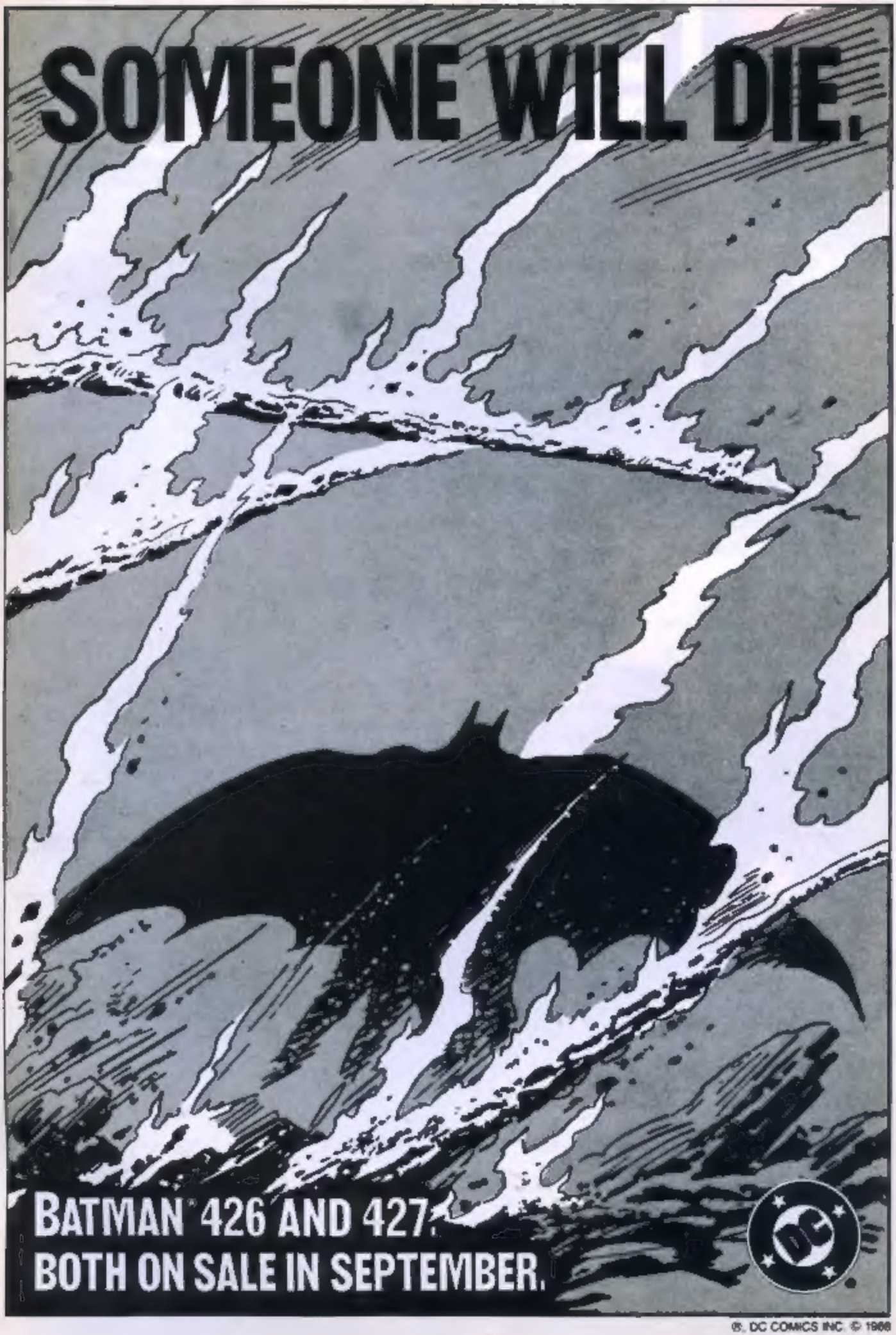

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